financial year 1998-99. A basic custom duty of 5% and a countervailing duty of Rs. 850/- per tonne, was imposed on imported sugar w.e.f. 28th April, 1998. The basic custom duty on imported sugar was increased to 20% w.e.f. 14:1.1999. In the Union Budget for 1999-2000, the duty on imported sugar has further been increased from 20% to 27.5% (25% plus 10% surcharge).

**Construction of FCI Godowns in Andhra Pradesh**

2835. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a long pressing demand for construction of. more godowns for the Food Corporation of India in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) how many private godowns have been hired by FCI for storage of foodgrains, giving the details of capacity and cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The total storage capacity available with FCI (Owned/Hired & CAP) in Andhra Pradesh as on 1.3.1999 is 21.95 lakh MT and the utilisation of this capacity is about 76%. As such the existing storage capacity is sufficient to meet the PDS requirement.

FCI propose to construct additional capacity at the following centres during the 9th Five Year Plan period:—

(1) Kakatur (Nellore)—30,000 MT

(2) Amalapuram (East Godawari)—
—10,000 MT

There are 15 godowns hired by the FCI in Andhra Pradesh as on 1.3.1999 with a capacity of 55,740 MTs from private parties. The details are given in the enclosed statement below.

**Statement**

*The Storage Capacity Hired by the FCI*

| S. No. | Centre | Capacity |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Jadeherla | 3340 |
| 2. | Cuddapah | 2500 |
| 3. | Kodad | 2000 |
| 4. | Y.Y. Depot (Nellore) | 2500 |
| 5. | Rajuppalam | 5000 |
| 6. | Kakatur | 10000 |
| 7. | Bodhan | 5300 |
| 8. | Kanteswal | 5000 |
| 9. | Nizamabad | 4000 |
| 10. | Kamareddy | 5000 |
| 11. | Vijianagram | 7100 |
| 12. | Lalchai Pela | 600 |
| 13. | Bobbili | 600 |
| 14. | Jammu | 1000 |
| 15. | Cheepurapally | 1800 |
| | TOTAL | 55740 |

**उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय मंडलों (डिविजनों) के लिए खाद्यान्न की व्यवस्था**

2836. **श्री मनोहर कान्त घ्यानी** : क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामलें के मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच हैं कि उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों के दो मंडलों में गरीबी रेखा के नीचे (बी0 पी0 एल0 ) श्रेणी की संख्या नाम मात्र हैं और जो 12 प्रतिशत से कम हैं,

(ख) क्या यह सच हैं कि इससे पूर्व वहां प्रति व्यक्ति प्रति माह के आधार पर पूर्ण राशन उपलब्ध कराया जाता था,

(ग) यदि नहां, तो क्या सरकारी को बी0 पी0 एल0 योजना लागू होने के बाद उन क्षेत्रों में अकाल जैसी स्थिति उत्पन्न होने जैसे दुष्प्रभावों की जानकारी हैं, और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या उपचारात्मक उपाये किए गए हैं ?